



July 15, 2003

Henry Golatt, Director
University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff
School of Business Management
Economic Research and Development Center
1200 N University Drive, Mail Slot 4943
Pine Bluff, AR 71601

Re: Advisory Opinion # 483-03-5

This letter is in response to your request for an advisory opinion in accordance with § 19-11-715(b) of the Arkansas Code Annotated of 1987.

We reviewed your request for an advisory opinion, which is based on the following facts:

- a) The UAPB Economic Research and Development Center's proposal is being funded by a \$75,000 grant from HUD, which designates the Family Community Development Corporation (FCDC) as the sub-recipient of grant funds. FCDC is a non-profit corporation that uses the grant funds for its research regarding community housing.
- b) Bruce Lockett, an employee of UAPB Residential Life (dorm program) was elected president of FCDC. This is not a paid position, and Mr. Lockett does not receive any compensation as president of FCDC.
- c) You are seeking an advisory opinion as to whether such a situation causes an ethical conflict per ACA §19-11-701 et. seq.

Based upon the facts stated in your letter, Mr. Lockett's position as a state employee does not present a conflict pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 19-11-705 because Mr. Lockett does not participate directly or indirectly in the awarding of the HUD grant to UAPB or the awarding of the subgrant to FCDC. Additionally, Mr. Lockett has no financial interest in FCDC because his position as president of FCDC is an unpaid position.

This advisory opinion is issued in accordance with Arkansas Code Annotated §19-11-715(b) and compliance with the above course of conduct is deemed to constitute compliance with the ethical standards of the Act.

Sincerely,

Richard A. Weiss
Director

Cc: Joe Giddis
Kay Turner
Tom Gay, Office of Atty. Gen.